2359

Equal Rights

VOL. XIII, No. 38
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 6, 1926

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PERIODICAL DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Outing of members and friends of the Women's League of the Brooklyn-Manhattan Railroad, who are also members of the Industrial Council of the Woman's Party, on the way to Lake Ronkonkoma, L. I.

Feminist Notes

To Honor Pioneer Women

A STATUE honoring the pioneer women as the mothers of the West is to be erected among the oil derricks on Cherokee strip, near Ponca City, Oklahoma, the scene of suffering and sacrifice in the early days of Western colonization.

E. W. Marland, of the Marland Oil Company, said, in announcing plans for the memorial, that he had seen statues honoring famous Western characters, but never had seen any to the pioneer women who made the settlement of the West possible.

Professions Not Harmful

TAKING a group of teachers as typical subjects for observation, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, formerly medical director of the Women's Royal Air Force, declares there is no reason to believe the occupation of these women has had any harmful effect on their health.

Women, she says, start out in their working careers with slight initial handicaps in the shape of a higher sickness rate in all the diseases than men. They have a liability to a special group of ailments of their own and a tendency to age sooner and more rapidly than men.

"Nevertheless," maintains Dr. Fairfield, "my conclusion is that all these handicaps have been exaggerated and can be considerably reduced by improved hygiene."

University Course on Women in Industry

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY is now offering a new extension course on the subject of women in industry. The course is designed to furnish a general introduction to problems of industrial women. Its subject matter, as outlined in the announcement, deals with the present status of women in industry, the conditions under which they work, and the reactions of these conditions on the women themselves, on the home and the family, on standards of living, infant mortality, child welfare, and public health. In the second semester the problems of the woman industrial worker will be studied in relation to other subjects, such as immigration, education, delinquency, and recreation. The course is being given by Mary D. Hopkins, formerly with the United States Department of Labor and the United States Public Health Service.

Woman Heads Stock Show

GOLDA A. FOSSETT, who managed the National Swine Show held at Peoria, Ill., on September 13-18, is said to be the only woman who ever directed a national stock show.

For Equality in Jury Service

BURNITA SHELTON MATTHEWS, members of the United States Supreme Court and chairman of the Legal Research Division of the National Woman's Party, Olive Beatty, Annabel Matthews, and Judge Mary O'Toole of the District of Columbia Municipal Court addressed the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia at its fall meeting urging continued work for the bill to make women eligible for jury service in the District of Columbia. The association pledged itself to work until equality in jury service in the National Capital is achieved.

The association also pledged itself to continue its work for equality in the inheritance laws of the District of Columbia. Committees have been appointed to work for both bills, which are pending in Congress. The District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party is actively working for these measures.

The following letter appeared in the Washington *Post* following the announcement that the Board of Trade opposed jury service for women:

"To the Editor of the *Post*—Sir: I note in today's *Post* the Committee on Law of the Board of Trade gives it as their opinion that they don't want the duty of jury service thrust upon housewives, whom they deem to be already over-burdened and nervous. If the housewives attached to the persons of the august Committee on Law are over-burdened and nervous, no one should know the fact better than the members of said committee. However, Washington contains countless housewives, who, owing to their husband's consideration are neither over-burdened nor nervous wrecks, and there are, moreover, many women who do not happen to be housewives. Let us by all means have woman's intelligence at our command for jury service.

"MARGUERITE DU PONT LEE,
Hotel Powhatan, Oct. 9."

Women Hairdressers Win Equality

FEMINISM won an important victory in France when women hairdressers achieved the right to work in hairdressing parlors on an equal footing with men.

Women "tonsorial artists" also will be allowed to join the "Barbers' Union," which to them has been a closed corporation since its creation.

Said Monsieur Jean Forrestier, president of the Barbers' Union:

"We have women taxi-drivers, women lawyers, women doctors, and I fail to see why we shouldn't have women hairdressers."

Women Dentists Win

PROFESSIONAL women in Germany see another victory for the Feminist movement in the ruling of the Federal Ministry of Education permitting employment of women dentists in the public schools. Women school physicians have been employed for several years, but it took nearly another two years of campaigning before authorities consented to permit women to compete with men for jobs as dentists in the public health service.

Women Scientists in British Government

A RECENT survey shows that women scientists are doing notable work in the various departments of the British Government.

Scores of profound brochures, written by young women scientists still in their twenties, have been published officially by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Several women are also employed in the government laboratories. Many others—brilliant young research workers—are receiving grants of from £250 to £400 a year to further their experiments, and are tackling every branch of science.

Dorothy Marshall, among the established government workers, has just seen the official publication of an intricate brochure on aerial problems. Edith Ervine has experimented on "the thermal endurance of glass," Marie Gayler on alloys of metals, and Winifred Fage on "the absorption and scattering of Gamma rays."

Among women grant workers are K. E. Carpenter and C. F. Elam—two of the most promising women scientists of today, comments *The Vote*, official organ of the Women's Freedom League of England. Miss Carpenter has already written five brochures, ranging from one on river pollution to one on the Cardiganshire lead mines.

Miss Elam has written two—one of them a description of her experiments "on the distortion of single crystal test pieces of aluminum."

Another worker of whom big things are expected is M. J. Latter, who has been investigating pollen development.

The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research gives two sorts of grants to young men and women scientific workers. One is a maintenance grant to "students in training," to enable college students to complete their special training in research methods. The other is a grant to actual research workers. Most of the students are only about 22 years old, and a majority of the research workers are under 30.

Feminists Greet Woman's Party President

MRS. OLIVER H. P. BELMONT, president of the National Woman's Party since it was re-organized in 1921 to work for the complete freedom of women in all aspects of life, returned to the United States Tuesday, October 26, on the S. S. Majestic.

Mrs. Belmont was cabled a welcome back to America by the National Headquarters, and members of the National Woman's Party in New York City welcomed her at the dock.

Mrs. Belmont is enshrined in the hearts of women devoted to equality and freedom because she has so many times "saved the day" at crucial points in the campaign for Suffrage and Equal Rights. She has always been ready, with encouragement, with money, and with defense against misrepresentation. She has the militant courage, the political wisdom, the uncompromising zeal, and the far vision which make her eminently suited to be a leader in the crusade of American women for Equal Rights. As she went unswervingly to her goal of suffrage for women by Federal Amendment, she now marches on the straight road ahead to the final attainment of Equal Rights between men and women. She has long seen the necessity of co-operation between the Feminists of the whole world for the freedom of all women.

Mrs. Belmont returned to the United States after attending the Paris Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance and conferring with European Feminists. Every member of the National Woman's Party welcomes her back home.

Mrs. Loring Pickering, New York City chairman of the National Woman's Party, Mrs. Clarence M. Smith, Mrs. Dana Brannan, Mrs. Mathilde Calhoun, and Mrs. Nora T. Baker, were among the delegation that greeted Mrs. Belmont at the dock.

Mrs. Belmont, while here, will confer with members of the Woman's Party regarding the convention of the Woman's Party, to be held in San Francisco on February 15—Susan B. Anthony's birthday—at which one of the questions to be considered will be whether or not the Woman's Party will join with Feminists of other countries in forming an international Equal Rights association to carry on throughout the world the work for equality, and to safeguard the rights of women before all such international bodies as the League of Nations and its subsidiary committees and commissions.

Women Around the World

By Alice Park

WHICH country visited by a round-the-world traveller has most freedom for women, and which has least? This is the question Feminists have asked me from time to time since last October, when I started west from California. The degree of freedom is almost impossible to estimate when only a month—or even less—is allotted to each foreign country. The language barrier is enormous. Hearsay carries no weight. I can answer definitely, however, that in every country the people who live there report progress toward Equal Rights for women, and report also the great need of immediate further progress.

Japan has every extreme of freedom and conservatism evident among women. National organizations of women working for votes for women, for temperance, for prevention of prostitution, for the federated club movement, for detention homes for girls, all are active. They are even co-operating, and using the same building in Tokyo for working headquarters for Japan. Stories of earnest deputations of women insisting on the attention of law-making bodies remind the writer of the Suffrage activities in England a dozen years ago.

At the other extreme are the women who are bound by tradition. They carry their babies on their backs for years, and refuse to learn that babies grow bow-legged in consequence. There are the women who wear very long and very narrow skirts that prevent taking one natural step in an entire lifetime. Even the Japanese wives of Japanese men who have adopted "foreign clothes" and abandoned the historic costume for men, continue to wear the national historic costume for women. In every country women work in the fields. When they do, they are obliged to modify their clothes accordingly. Clothes are a conspicuous indication of progress or backwardness.

War in China barred tourists from visiting interior cities. A short visit to Shanghai was the means of discovering the woman manager of a woman's bank. This official is a good Feminist, an educator of women. Her work is stimulating and useful to the community. One must remember that the Chinese wife who is not a peasant is practically house-bound, too timid to go about freely on the street, too timid to visit the bank to deposit or borrow money. To such women, this bank manager is an important connection with the world of progress.

The women in the Philippines range from graduates of colleges to women who speak unusual dialects in remote villages, and who don't know the United States controls the islands. It is a pleasure to report that the women seen on the streets of Manila look far happier than the women of Tokyo and Hong Kong. The writer welcomed the appearance of health, activity, and happiness. The movement for votes for women is promising. Men politicians have committed themselves to Equal Rights for women. 1926 is late compared with 1920, the date of the Suffrage Amendment in the United States, but success is near.

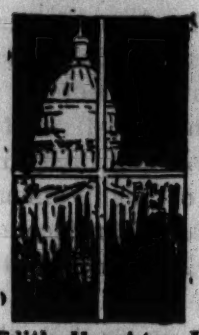
The women of India can't be summed up in a paragraph. India is far from being one country. It is many provinces speaking many languages and many dialects. Millions of ignorant and educated people are divided by barriers of superstition. Gandhi is trying to teach them solidarity. The belief that it is creditable to be a beggar, and creditable to give to beggars is responsible for vast numbers of beggars of both sexes and all ages. The belief that girls and women are of no use at all except for breeding purposes is responsible for much misery.

It is encouraging to note that the age of consent has been raised in certain provinces to thirteen years. This protects brides betrothed when hardly out of babyhood. No girl in those districts can be a wife until she is thirteen years of age, a creditable advance from previous laws and the customs of centuries.

The women of Burma have the reputation of having more freedom of all kinds than all other Oriental women. But many of them wear half a dozen ear-rings in each ear and numerous nose ornaments. Many women and girls in India pierce their nostrils. Many Egyptian women wear queer devices to hold up their veils so only their eyes can be seen. Women in the warm climate of Algiers hide their faces and wear layers upon layers of clothes. Though many of them have bare feet, others have shoes with French heels, even with their shroud-like costumes.

There are the women gamblers of Monte Carlo. They probably represent many countries. There are the few women officially connected with the League of Nations at Geneva, where the women of the world need representatives. There are the disfranchised women of France and a few other countries. There are the women of England, millions of whom are disfranchised because they are not yet thirty years old, and others disfranchised because of limitations imposed on women more than thirty years old. All these vagaries point to the need of further progress in all countries.—*The Vote, London.*

Equal Rights



OFFICIAL ORGAN
of the
National Woman's Party
Capitol Hill
Washington, D. C.

Published weekly
at 19 West Chase Street
Baltimore, Md.

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Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice, Baltimore, Md., under Act March 3, 1870.

Subscription, $2.00 a Year
Foreign Subscription, $2.50

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Annual Dues	$10.00
Associate Members	$1.00
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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.
House Joint Resolution Number 81.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925, by Senator Charles E. Curtis.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 16, 1925, by Representative D. R. Anthony.

See-Saw Margery Daw

RIDING up and down on a teeter is easy exercise compared with keeping pace with the political status of Italian women. Not long since Signor Mussolini was hailed as the liberator of the feminine sex in Italy, for by decree of his personally conducted government women were granted the right to vote in municipal elections. That is, certain women were granted the right to vote, not all of them, but enough to lead to the hope that this was the first step toward winning general suffrage. Great was the rejoicing, but behold what transpired. No sooner had this law been enacted than the adoption of the system, by Podesta, suppressing municipal elections, deprived the women of their newly acquired right to vote.

Then came the question, are women eligible for the post of Podesta? The Podestas are the Italian equivalent of Mayors, except that they are appointed by the National Government instead of being elected by popular suffrage. The law establishing Podestas did not specifically exclude women, it being left uncertain whether they were eligible or not.

The question was recently put to the test by the action of a small municipality in the Rome region, which strongly recommended a woman to the Ministry of Internal Affairs for appointment to the post of Podesta.

On October 23 the Ministry decided that the old municipal law should be applied. This law provided that only a voter could become the head of a municipality. As the women, however, had already lost the right to vote, the Ministry ruled that they were not eligible for the post of Podesta.

Thus the woman suffrage movement in Italy has been pushed back to its old status before the advent of the Mussolini Government, and Italian women have been definitely cut off from all participation in the political life of their nation.

WE marvel that Italian women should be willing quietly to submit to such indignities, but is it not even more wonderful that American women with equal suffrage in their hands should be willing to forego their constitutional rights in favor of a government by "police power?"

The principal argument advanced against the Federal Equal Rights Amendment is that its passage would invalidate "protective" legislation for women only. Such legislation is, of course, repugnant to the language of the Constitution of the United States, and is admittedly unconstitutional in the case of men. By accepting "protective" or class legislation for themselves, American women voluntarily divest themselves of their constitutional rights and bend their necks to a type of tyranny which self-respecting men have long since cast aside, the tyranny involved in unbridled police power.

MANY years ago in New York City, Clause 79 of the Page bill, which provided for the special treatment of women prostitutes, was declared to be unconstitutional on the ground that it constituted class legislation. Since that time, however, similar laws have been passed by many States and have been enforced by virtue of the "police power." Thus in America the teeter too goes up and down.

Many soft-hearted and soft-spoken individuals base their appeal against Equal Rights on the tragic condition of the woman factory worker. She needs the extra "protection" which alone is possible under the "police power" of the various States, so they say; it is all very well for the woman at the top of the economic ladder to demand Equal Rights, but for the woman at the bottom protection is of far greater advantage than theoretical constitutional guarantees.

But wait a moment: the woman factory worker, no matter how hard her lot, is not the most necessitous of her sex. There is another far beneath her, and as long as unequal rights, tyrannously administered through the police power prevail, that most wretched of humanity's children, the woman prostitute will continue to be a fixture in the social order. Shorn of her constitutional rights, deprived of the equal protection of the laws, an outcast from society, the prostitute stands as a symbol of what man's "protection" of woman really signifies. As long as the scarlet woman lives all women should know that they cannot trust the welfare of their sex to the capricious chivalry of men. "Protection" is not protection as men perfectly well know when its purchase price is the equal protection of the laws.

We shake our heads over the plight of the Italian women, but we should rather shake our fists at the American public, which faithless to American traditions and ideals has substituted a government by police power in place of a constitutional government for one-half the citizens of the United States.

Our Embassy Christens a Married Woman

By Ruth Allison Hudnut

Editors Note: Miss Hudnut is a Founder of the Woman's Party and co-author of a book entitled, "Problems of Citizenship." She was recently in London, where she engaged in research to obtain data for use in her literary work.

"PERMISSION to inspect the Public Records is granted by the British Government as a favor, and as it is only through the courtesy of the British Government that Americans are granted this privilege, it has always been the custom of the Embassy to conform to the customs which prevail here." This was the explanation given by Mr. Boylston Beal, counsellor of the Embassy, for introducing me to the Public Record Office by my husband's name and not my own. To use the public records in England, an introduction from the Embassy is required. With my husband I made a personal request for this introduction. We showed our passport which contained two names, his and mine, but knowing the force of custom, to make certain no error be made, we called special attention to the fact that I was traveling under my own name and explained that I never used my husband's.

In the face of this explanation, it was confounding to find that the counsellor of the Embassy insisted upon applying to me an appellation which did not appear on my passport. This insistence extended to a refusal to conform to my written request that his error be rectified and a denial of an interview. I was even informed by the "under under" that the affair was purely a "personal" matter, one which did not interest the Embassy as that body was concerned wholly with international and social matters. Yet it was only through the Embassy I could obtain access to the records I desired and the Embassy involved itself sufficiently in a "personal" matter to insist on introducing me by a name which did not appear on my passport giving as its only reason "British custom." It was "British custom" to address a married woman by her husband's name.

Fortunately the legal advisor of the Woman's Party, Burnita Shelton Matthews, was in London at the time and solicited the interest of Mrs. Helena Normanton, a British barrister. Mrs. Normanton has spent some time disproving the very point upon which Mr. Boylston Beal rested his case. She has made more secure the English woman's right to keep her name after marriage.

We visited Mr. Boylston Beal in trio—Mrs. Matthews' prestige carrying us successfully past the "under under." We found a gentleman almost apoplectic with rage. One was tempted to believe it was not "British custom" of which he was so tender, but his own deep-founded prejudice. He stated in a voice unsteady with emotion that he had "no synpathy" with the idea, that we were "wasting his time," and that he would like to know what my husband thought about it. If I did not care to work in the Public Record Office under my husband's name, I need not work there at all.

A patient reiteration of the legal aspects of the case by Mrs. Matthews and a rehearsel of "British custom" by Mrs. Normanton did not bring him to reason. The idea of any married woman retaining her own name was so abhorrent to him that he was determined to thwart it if he could find any excuse, passport or no passport. He continued to cling to his only argument, "British custom." Finally by clever maneouvering he was brought to the point of agreeing that if the Public Record Office were willing to recognize me as "Miss Hudnut," he would acquiesce in the matter. The desired recognition was easily secured from the Public Record Office where the secretary, himself a lawyer, acknowledged I was merely exercising a legal right recognized in England as possessed by wives.

When this information was conveyed by letter to Mr. Boylston Beal and the hope expressed that the way would now be cleared for other American women traveling under their own name, he answered that he was glad the affair had been terminated to the satisfaction of all. He had been animated, he again explained, solely by the idea that "in asking favors and privileges one should conform to usage." He did not say that he was now convinced as to what "British custom" really was, nor did he commit himself as to the future attitude of the Embassy toward other American women using their own names. But if this attitude remains unchanged and exists in other countries, the right of a married woman to travel under her own name becomes a paper right, for how futile a passport with a name which the representatives of the United States refuse to recognize in foreign lands. It was only through the efforts of Burnita Shelton Matthews, working for the National Woman's Party, that this right was recently won for American women and we must insist upon its recognition by our Embassies. An experience of this kind brings forcibly to mind the need of women in our foreign offices to represent one-half our citizens now unrepresented and to protect their interests equally with those of the other half.

In Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence

THE national Woman's Party joined with the Feminists of Great Britain in honoring Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence with a silver wedding congratulatory dinner on October 8 in London.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence are well known in the United States as staunch and ceaseless workers for Equal Rights between men and women, Mr. Pethick-Lawrence as a member of Parliament, and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence as president of the Women's Freedom League and a member of the International Advisory Council of the National Woman's Party. Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence were guests at National Headquarters of the Woman's Party at a little dinner on their wedding anniversary last year, when they were here attending the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence stayed at Headquarters during her visit.

Betty Gram-Swing, a Founder of the Woman's Party, and Hazel Hunkins, both national organizers of the Woman's Party during the Suffrage campaign, organized the Woman's Party table at the silver wedding dinner in London. The table was decorated with purple, white, and gold flowers, and backed by a screen on which were draped two picket banners. Those seated at the Woman's Party table were Betty Gram-Swing, Crystal Eastman, Ella Riegel of Pennsylvania, Mr. Charles Hallinan, Hazel Hunkins, Alice Swing, Helen Essary, Karl Walter, Edythe Rudderow, Margaret Walter, Mrs. A. Mead Swing, Dr. Kirchwey, and Dr. Alice Benham.

The following cablegram from Alice Paul was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence on the occasion of the dinner:

"Congratulations and best wishes. Warmest appreciation of all you have done for women."

The toast to Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence was proposed by Dame Millicent Fawcett, one of England's best-loved Feminist leaders, and supported by Captain Wedgewood Benn, M. P.; Mrs. M. Wynne Nevisson, J. P., L. L. A.; and W. Pett Ridge.

Congratulatory speeches were made by Evelyn Sharp, Chrystal Macmillan, Miss M. Fedden, and Anna Munro. Dr. Elizabeth Knight was chairman of the dinner.

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence has taken part in every activity in England for the service for women, and has likewise been a leader in bringing women of all nations together for Equal Rights. She has

served the Women's Freedom League as president. She took a leading part in the militant suffrage campaign in England, and suffered jail penalties for her activity. Her part in that remarkable campaign can never be forgotten. She was one of the leaders in the recent Hyde Park procession and demonstration for the franchise on equal terms with men.

The menu bore the words, "Dare to be free," the motto of the Women's Social and Political Union of which Mrs. Lawrence was so long honorary treasurer, and in which organization she did her most brilliant work in the suffrage campaign.

The October 1 issue of the *Woman's Leader,* one of the leading feminist papers of Great Britain, writes as follows concerning the anniversary dinner:

"On 8th October, the Women's Freedom League will entertain Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence at dinner in the Holborn Restaurant, in celebration of their silver wedding. Doubtless a large and varied contingent of veteran suffragists will be there to welcome them. But in the world at large, more suffragists than the Holborn Restaurant would accommodate, more indeed than could find their way to the centre of the metropolis, on a given date in a given year, will find that excellent memories are stirred, and warm feelings loosed by the reminder that Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence are passing the milestone which marks twenty-five years of comradeship.

"We of course see them, and shall always see them when old times pass in review, at the hub of the militant suffrage movement—though to others they may appear predominantly as the devoted philanthropists of earlier years, or as the pacifists and labour politicians of a post-war era. To us, however, they are predominantly the Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence of the W. S. P. U., who edited its paper, and accumulated its treasury, through the last years of the Militant Suffrage movement. In all the history of propagandist journalism, never was there such a paper as *Votes for Women.* Week after week it never flagged. It was always interesting, always alive, and always varied. But on the other hand, in all the history of political agitation, never where there two such treasurers as Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. Not a few of our readers will remember those delirious money-raising scenes in the Albert Hall—Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence at her central table, extracting cheques and promises of cheques from an excited audience, Mr. Pethick-Lawrence on her right, operating a large scoring board on which the significant figure rose from tens to hundreds, from hundreds to thousands. And how disappointed we should all have been if, when the last promise rolled in and the last score was tabled, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence had omitted to make her habitual joke, *"Now we will take the collection."* As a matter of fact, within the limits of our memory, we never were disappointed!

"But perhaps in all the history of Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence's connection with the Militant Suffrage movement no act more graciously became them than the manner in which they ultimately severed the connection. Exactly what were the conflicts of policy or method which led to their sudden resignation from a committee dominated by Mrs. and Miss Pankhurst, we do not know. But we do know that at a time when the W. S. P. U. was fringed with enemies eagerly awaiting the opportunity to acclaim the dissensions of its leaders, that opportunity was never given. Not a word of bitterness or reproach, or self-justification, or dissention was spoken. Seldom has a difficult public act been accomplished with a greater measure of discretion and generosity; and the whole Suffrage movement, constitutional and militant, had reason to be grateful to those who thus accomplished it.

"And we still have reason to be grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence for many other things—for they are still there, fighting our old battles on their long extended new front. It is fortunate, too, that one member of this indispensable partnership is able to carry on the fight in the House of Commons. Long may he remain there."

Woman's Ingratitude to Man

Reprinted from American Medicine, September, 1926.

IT is a common observation that woman's sense of honor is inferior to that of man, and that observation has been drawn from many activities. It has been said that she lies more easily than a man, she cheats more readily than a man, and she is almost totally devoid of a sense of fair play. And now, according to the news from Northwestern University, it would appear that her sense of honor is not only inferior, it may be totally lacking. Northwestern is one of those universities which is largely attended by women. It is one of those institutions which has championed the claims of equality for women, and has opened its doors wide to ambitious females. The admission of women to Northwestern was one of those generous and broadminded gestures by which men made it possible, after years of persecution of the female, for her to rise to equality with them. *Woman's equality, a reality today, was made possible only through the assistance of man. When women were struggling alone for emancipation, they were getting nowhere. Their efforts were not crowned with success until men took up their cause.* But once the men were enlisted in their favor, woman's progress toward equality was immediate. And then, equality achieved, what happened? Woman immediately took advantage of man's generosity, and, instead of stopping at equality, immediately set about outstripping the stronger sex. One apparently cannot count on a woman to keep a bargain. She asked for equality, but what she wanted was superiority. Men discovered that too late, and more than one male supporter of emancipation for women has lived to regret his rashness.

It must be perfectly manifest to men by now that they have been completely taken in. Woman has not stopped at an equation; she is striding on to greater heights. Forgetting her debt to man, she now is aiming to become his creditor. The situation at Northwestern University is typical. No sooner had woman been admitted to the institution than she immediately began to corner all the scholarships and snatch up all the prizes. Of the 7,300 students, only 2,500 are girls, but they have invariably carried off all the honors, leaving the men far behind. Ever since their admission to the university they have been showing the men up; they have outshone them completely in all departments. Now, if ever there was a breach of hospitality, this is it. The guests have taken possession of the house, the pupils have become masters, the paupers have been handing out alms. A most absurd situation, a gross violation of the sense of propriety, an intolerable abuse of the fitness of things. But, thank heaven, the trustees of Northwestern University, with true male vigor and superiority, have known how to deal with the situation. After a solemn conference, in which feminine lack of honor was condemned, they voted to limit the attendance of women at the university hereafter. Male supremacy must be defended. If women cannot keep their places, a grade or two below the supreme male, they will be forced to do so by the rules of the establishment; and, if they still continue to corner all the scholarship prizes despite their diminished numbers, more severe measures will be taken. The action of the trustees is admirable. It is a pity that men in other walks of life are not as prudent and foresighted. Another decade of supineness on the part of the men, and male supremacy

will become a thing of the past. Women have neither a sense of honor nor a sense of gratitude toward their emancipators. Unless something is done, and done at once, they will be producing better mechanics, better magnates and better doctors than their benefactors. Women have a malicious faculty for outstripping men in every department once they are given a free rein. And unless men get together and appeal to their sense of honor, they will stop at nothing in their march toward supremacy. It is hardly likely that the women will succumb to such an appeal. In that event, severe measures will have to be taken, as at Northwestern. They will have to submit to a quota arrangement, in which only a small percentage of their sex, pledged not to excel the preponderant male, will be admitted to the various activities outside the home. With this warning in mind, they will perhaps stop winning all the scholarships and prizes and exhibiting more talent than that most perfect of all creations—Man.

THE FEMALE PERIL.

From the above it would seem that the Female Peril may be a very real thing, a more menacing matter than the Yellow Peril ever was. The White Man's Burden has become Man's Burden, whatever his color. The issue is now one of sex and not of tint. Of course, a cynic may smile at all this, and perhaps his undisturbed serenity is not without sense. He has only to scan the fashion columns of any publication in order to feel that male supremacy is not in danger and never will be *so long as woman remains addicted to that devastating drug—Fashion.* And it is in the fashion columns that man may find a solution to his danger. If the quota system fails to hold women down, perhaps a more subtle method may be employed. It has for a long time been the contention of cultured Chinese that the opium trade was encouraged in their country by white nations anxious to keep the yellow man in his place. A similar method may be employed in defeating the ambitions of woman. *The drug which will ultimately defeat woman in her aspirations is style.*

At a recent conference of the National Hairdressers' Association, it was explained that short hair among women has come to stay because it is more hygienic and sensible. In the same column of the newspaper which reported this conference, there was another dispatch from the gathering of the Fashion Art League, meeting in Chicago, which predicted that skirts were to be shorter and tighter in the season to come. It is true that when woman won her emancipation, she immediately went in for bobs and shingles as proof of her emancipation. She severed all ties with tradition on this score in favor of male sense, but the break with tradition was only partial. And the break, it must be acknowledged, was encouraged less by the dictates of sense than by the ineluctable feminine instinct to please. Women cut their hair only because they thought they looked prettier that way. No amount of hygienic logic would persuade them to take that step if it did not appear to enhance their faculty for pleasing. And the best proof that the move was not one dictated by sense, is the news about shorter and tighter skirts. There can be no sense in that, yet we predict that even the most emanicipated of women will be wearing shorter and tighter skirts during the coming season. Opium is a harmless drug in comparison with the drug of Fashion. We recommend the latter to all those males who tremble on their thrones and dread the Female Peril. Women will be slaves to that drug as long as they remain women, and that is a long time—which should be ample reassurance to the Dominant Male.

Press Comment

The National Woman's Party

From the New York World,

To the Editor of *The World:*

There have been so many ideas and arguments on the subject of special restrictive legislation for women in industry, many of them based upon propaganda rather than upon facts, that it might be well at this time to restate the case for industrial equality.

In order to understand the forces back of the present-day movement to "protect" women, one need only to go back to 1835, when the Committee on Female Labor of the New England Association of Farmers, Mechanics, and Other Workingmen, a predecessor of the American Federation of Labor, alarmed at the rapid gains being made by women in industry—at that time 58 per cent of the workers in New England factories were women—condemned "female labor" as "debasing to women and bringing destructive competition to men," and recommended legislation to restrict women in industry.

From that day to this the special legislation for women that has been placed upon the statute books of many States has been passed under the leadership of the American Federation of Labor in cooperation with social reformers and welfare groups who have sought and are now seeking special labor laws for women on the plea that women are physically weak, that their morals may be endangered by working in certain occupations at certain hours, and that they are helpless under exploiting employers.

The record of the A. F. of L. then has been against giving women's unions an equal voice in the labor movement and against making any great effort to organize women into unions, or gaining admittance for them into unions from which they are now excluded. And while the majority of men workers in this country are unorganized, and might welcome legislation providing for a basic 8-hour day, with provision for overtime with pay, organized labor has gone on record against such legislation for men, on the ground, as stated by Mr. Gompers, "that if men can secure a shorter work-day through legislation, they will not join the unions." On the other hand, seemingly with the idea of "the competitive menace" of women in mind, it sponsors drastic restrictive legislation for women—such as the proposed 48-hour law in this State, which specifies the number of hours a woman may work and denies to her the right to work overtime with pay. Since the law would not apply to men, they could, but women could not, be employed overtime in case of necessity or emergency, a circumstance which would make women less desirable than men as employees. The effect of such legislation would be, as women workers testified at the legislative hearing in Albany, that wherever the work of women mingles with that of men, women would lose their jobs and be replaced by men.

Ohio offers an example of the kind of laws sponsored by the advocates of "protection," where women have been prohibited by law from working as taxicab drivers, as bellhops, and in various other occupations supposed to be dangerous to their morals. Under the 54-hour law for women passed in New York, women pharmacists are prohibited from working at their profession at night, for the reason that they cannot sell an article other than their prescription after 10 P. M. Women in this State are also debarred by law from work at newsstands, in drug and candy stores, as elevator operators except in hotels, and as waitresses in restaurants after 10 P. M., and yet, strange and illogical as it may seem, the same groups that base their chief argument on "the fatigue of long hours" have been perfectly willing to compromise and accept a proposed 48-hour law which would continue the 12-hour day in summer for women in the canning industries. Women printers in newspaper offices were also thrown out of well-paid night work with the passage

of the 54-hour law for women. It matters little whether there were few so employed or many. The fact remains that until these women organized and fought a strenuous battle which finally resulted in securing from the legislature an exemption from the law, if many women had sought the opportunity to work in newspaper offices at night it would have been denied them by law. In like manner, upon the passage of a law, in this State regulating the hours of women on railroads, but not regulating the hours of men, 3,000 women railroad workers, many of whom had been in railroad service from sixteen to twenty-five years, many of them widows with children to support, were thrown out of employment. They, too, organized and finally secured an amendment to the law which allowed 800 of them to regain their jobs.

These women workers who have suffered through special labor laws for women have formed the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party, and are determined to use every effort to prevent a 48-hour law or any further special legislation for women being enacted in this State.

To sum up the position of the Woman's Party against special labor laws for women:

We believe in a short work-day for both men and women, and are not in favor of the exploitation of any human being by industry. We believe, however, that to restrict by legislation the hours of labor of women, but not those of men, perpetuates the idea that women are a class apart in industry who are only to be allowed to work at special hours, under special supervision, and subject to special governmental regulations. We demand that in the field of labor no restrictions be placed upon women alone, because such restrictions make it more difficult for them to compete with men in earning a livelihood.

We point out that women have always performed the unpaid labor of the world with no protest from any one as to whether it was beyond their strength; that it is only in the field of paid labor that one finds this interest in the welfare of women. If various restrictions are good for the individual and the race, they should apply to all workers in industry. In this way the individuals concerned will benefit, the race will benefit, and women will not be injured by being subjected to an additional handicap in earning their livelihood.

We believe that liability to many forms of industrial disease is an individual and not a sex liability, and that if after investigation it is found that special regulations are necessary, workers should be safeguarded irrespective of sex, and those individuals, male or female, eliminated who are found to be specially prone to any particular industrial disease. Unbiased investigation has shown that lead-poisoning affects disastrously both sexes and can be transmitted in various forms to offspring by either parent.

We contend that if night work is undesirable for women because the streets are unsafe at night, the solution is to make the streets safe. If it is bad from a health point of view, the solution is to make night-work laws for the various occupations covered by these laws apply to both men and women, as is now done in Norway, and not to apply to women alone.

That there is a world-wide trend on the part of women against special restrictive legislation is evidenced by the action taken by the recent congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in Paris. There, after three years' study of the subject by experts, the Committee on Like Conditions of Work for Men and Women passed by a large vote a drastic resolution in favor of industrial equality. Seven of the British delegates who were in favor of the resolution were labor women.

The congress itself, with women delegates from nearly fifty countries reaffirmed its position taken at Rome in 1923:

That the right to work of all women be recognized, and no obstacle placed in the way of married women who desire to work; that no special regulations for women's work different from regulations for men should be imposed contrary to the wishes of the women concerned; that laws relative to women as mothers should be so framed as not to handicap them in their economic position, and that all future regulations should tend toward equality for men and women.

And in addition passed the following resolution in favor of industrial equality:

This congress holds that all regulations and restrictions which aim at the true protection of the worker must be based not upon sex but upon the nature of the occupation, and that any international system of differential legislation based on sex, in spite of any temporary advantage, may develop into a intolerable tyranny and result in the segregation of women workers and the imposition of fresh handicaps on their capacity as wage-earners.

JANE NORMAN SMITH,
New York State Chairman National Woman's Party.
New York, July 8.

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News from the Field

Minnesota Branch Seeks Office for Women

THE St. Paul Branch of the National Woman's Party held a dinner at the Women's City Club of St. Paul on October 30 to discuss the question, "Shall we have a woman as assistant county attorney?" Elizabeth Owens of Minneapolis, assistant county attorney of Hennipin County, and the two candidates for county attorney of Ramsey County, Michael F. Kinkead and C. D. O'Brien, Jr., were the speakers. Marie Moreland is chairman of the St. Paul Branch of the Woman's Party.

Miss Nettie Blazing had charge of the decorations. Mrs. A. B. Colvin was chairman of the committee for speakers.

Republican Women Hear Equal Rights Argument

EDITH HOUGHTON HOOKER, chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, addressed the Women's Republican Club of Delaware County at Media, Pennsylvania, on October 7, presenting arguments in favor of adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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